

AUGUST 15, 1946

No decision has been reached as to whether or not Media Borough will transfer its police radio hook-up to the new county radio station to be operated by the District Attorney's office in the court house. They are now receiving service thru the Swarthmore Police broadcasting station for their two-way police cars. Said one official: "Media will do whatever it is decided is best for Media and the county as a whole. We are for progress." The county station, it is said, will give service to municipalities, but is not designed to take the place of existing police radio stations.

# Media Weekly COMMENT

5c

Vol. I—No. 5

Published Weekly

Media, Pa.

## Psychology and Media Council Straightens Pike Over Creek

Have you noticed the three white crosses on the side of Baltimore pike where the highway crosses the Ridley Creek??

They have great significance.

(a) They are warning markers to motorists—represent three human lives lost in futile attempt to negotiate the curve.

(b) They are statutes honoring the power of psychology.

The latter significance is probably confusing. That is unless you know the story of those three markers—why they were put there and what happened as a result.

They were erected one at a time, a few days following the death of a motorist whose life was forfeited because of the dangerousness of the curve in the road at that point. And after the erection of each cross, a picture and an explanatory letter were dispatched to the Pennsylvania State Highway Department at Harrisburg.

Results were slow, but sure.

The war, diverting attention, caused a delayed action in this psychological campaign. But, that's over (?) now. And that 'death curve' is to be eliminated.

Baltimore pike is to be straightened

where it crosses Ridley Creek. The contracts have been awarded and work will start any day now.

It's a tribute to the power of psychology.

Psychology may not be powerful enough to move mountains, but it (Turn to Page two)

## Millon Dollar Media Building Job by Green

Philip Green, prominent Media builder, revealed to Comment this week, plans for a million dollar building program in the Media area.

Outstanding among his building program is a ten story office and apartment building to be located at the corner of Front Street and South Ave. Ground will be broken in the near future for this project. According to Mr. Green it is planned to make this a medical arts building and that several Media doctors have consulted him on office space and the layout to be used for offices. The en-

Turn to Page six

## Reunion of the Media High's Class of 1929

Media High School's class of 1929 will meet in a class reunion September 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wright, of Village Green, will be hosts.

Said Mr. Wright:

"It is hoped that all members of the class now living in or near Media will attend. An effort is being made to contact all members of the Class of 29.

"This reunion is not restricted to graduates only. All who attend school during the four years representing the cycle of the 1929 graduating class are invited."

An entertainment program is being arranged.

Members of the graduating class are:

Wilmer Baker, John Burrows, Mildred Burk Wilding, Helen Brenz, Edna Civil Fisher, Kathryn Collins, Lavinia DeJohn Pierce, Marion Tachus Smith, Frank English, Clara Ewing Glick, Maryland Freeman, Grace Griffith Signor, Eileen Hardy Riddle, Alice Hilton, Ruby Holloway, Marjorie Irons Rigby, Grace Jobson Heckman, Nina Kennedy Marshall, Henry Kern, Gladys Law-

(Turn to Page seven)

*The Media Weekly Comment Has More Than 6000 Readers*



## BALTIMORE PIKE TO BE STRAIGHTENED

(Continued from Page 1)

was powerful enough, in this instance, to straighten a road. And that's quite a feat.

And the man who had confidence in the power of psychology—and, with his colleagues on the Media borough council, so successfully experimented with it, is G. D. Houtman, President of Council.

Council erected the crosses.

Council saw to it that the pictures, and the explanatory letter were sent to the State Highway Department.

If you want to get a picture of what this road straightening will mean, drive out Baltimore Pike to the traffic circle at Black Horse and then reverse your direction. As you descend Black Horse hill, stop at the curve nearest to Ridley Creek. Then look across the marsh along the banks of the creek until your eye meets the highway before it curves (on the Media side of the creek) to cross the bridge.

That's the route of the new roadway.

Curves, where it crosses the creek there will be width enough for four lanes of traffic.

This means victory after a five-year fight.

Even the State Highway Department had its troubles after reaching a decision to eliminate the death curve. They had to advertise three times for construction bids.

There's very little property condemnation involved.

One house (or what was once a house) on the north side of the pike just East of the creek, will be sacrificed in straightening the road. This house, once owned by the Smedley family, has a certain historical value.

The historic halo is mostly because of age, though there are probably fifty houses in Delaware County dating back farther into the past. It hasn't been occupied for years and is now no more than a shell.

It is the only building to be razed.

**TRY OUR  
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## Media Streets To Be Repaired

This is one time when Media residents will have visual evidence of a tax dollar.

Under a recent Act of the Pennsylvania Legislature, one-half cent of that four-cent tax per gallon on gas you pay reverts back to your municipality for street repairs. And Media's share of this comes to about \$4,000.00.

Here are some of the improvements listed:

The high crown on Front street between Monroe and Edgemont is to be removed.

Church street, between Baltimore and State; and Edgemont street, between State and Front, are to be resurfaced. This resurfacing will consist of a layer of one inch of Amiesite.

All of these improvements will be made, providing the \$4,000.00 in tax refund can be made to stretch that far. And if there is any left over then other streets in the borough will be repaired.

This money represents the one-half cent rebate on gas tax paid the State during 1945.

## Media Briefs

An appeal has come to COMMENT to silence a motorcycle enthusiast who insists in 'testing' his machine along Baltimore pike in the 'wee' hours. It seems the real objection is the noise. Perhaps if he'd use the regular muffling gadget it'd help. COMMENT admits that this is without its usual premise. But, perhaps this cyclist is a good sport and will take a hint. We're passing the tip along anyway.

Charlie Plotts, the Upper Providence road supervisor, is certainly doing a good job on township streets.

**MEDIA STREETS**—Residents can be congratulated on their persistence in keeping the streets clean of refuse.

Turn to Page Eight



## BUSINESS MEN

Media business houses will be asked to express a preference on closing hours.

Three suggestions will be made.

(a) Close Wednesday afternoons.

(b) Remain open Friday night until 10 p.m.

(c) Close Saturdays at noon.

This schedule of hours is applicable only to June, July and August.

William T. Patterson, President of the Media Business Men's Association, has designated a committee to make the survey and report.

## UPPER PROVIDENCE

In an effort to solve their expansion problems for some years to come the Upper Providence Township School Board is negotiating for the purchase of about ten acres of ground northwest of the present Sandy Bank school. These lots were sold years ago when an effort to develop the ground failed. Many of the owners are unknown today and it is possible that condemnation proceedings will be necessary to clear up the titles to much of this property. No homes in the area will be condemned.

The purchase of this ground will clear much property from the books of delinquent taxes. It will also give room for expansion in practically all directions. It is doubtful whether any building will take place in the near future but the purchase of ground is definitely a step in the right direction. Proposed building in Upper Providence will certainly tax the school facilities in the next few years.

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# Delco Soap Box Derby Finally To Be Run Sat.

With two false starts, the Delco Soap Box Derby, scheduled for Seventh and Jackson streets, Media, will be run off Saturday (August 17th) at 1 p.m.

Five Media boys are entered.

Seventh Street is ideal for a derby. It has a good grade, an excellent surface and sufficient space at the end of the racing course for gradual stops.

Entries have come in from every section of the county.

The derby is sponsored by the Media Post No. 3460, V.F.W. and has the co-sponsorship of the Juvenile Probation Office of the County Courts. With the help of Media business houses, prizes will be distributed to each entry, whether a winner or not.

Judges include;

Fred Schultz, Burgess of Media; M. H. Laughead, Chief of Police of Media; Thomas J. Luglio, Media Post No. 3460, V.F.W.; Arthur Griffith, chairman of the Media Recreation Committee; (his committee has done an admirable job in keeping four playgrounds going in the borough over the summer) Walter Weaver, Superintendent County Park and Recreation Committee; William J. Burk, Clerk of County Courts; and Harry Kimmelman.

Media boys entered are:

Larry Matson, Francis Lombardo, Sonny Gabany.

## BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. William Hudson Pennell, E. 2nd st., a son, August 6th.

To M. Sgt. and Mrs. Alfred H. Tippin, U. S. Army, a daughter, Washington—August 5th.

To Ernest and Hilda Hennicke, a son, August 4th.

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# ANNETTE

By Stewart Patterson

They called him Big Mike at the Penn.

Tall and hairy and tough, his thick lips sagged in a snarl even when he tried to laugh. He had had to be hard of talk and strong in muscle in his business. That is what had been his business before that night in Joe's place down on State street . . . that night when he had crashed a big fist against the jaw of a cop. A mug what bossed a lot of truck drivers couldn't be no dude with parlor ways.

They had said the cop's thick neck had snapped with a noise something like that of a stick breaking. But, he'd given the law the odds. He never took advantage of no man. The cop had a gun.

He thought of that cop again as he stood outside the big iron gates of the prison. He flexed his muscles, expanded his chest and squared broad shoulders. Seven years in back of the high wall with all of its towers, had not softened him, and he chuckled in satisfaction. His strength was about all that he had left. That is except . . .

A frown contorted his heavy face as he thought of Annette.

Their contrast had first attracted him, he guessed. She was so small and so dainty and he was so big and so rough. People had always smiled when they saw them together on the street. That is if they were sure Big Mike was looking the other way. If she'd been with him that night in Joe's place he wouldn't have hit the cop. He always wanted to fight when whiskey heated his blood, but Annette had a way of looking up at him with her brown eyes that cooled him off.

He wondered if her hair was as soft and as curly. And his thick fingers, thrust deep into the pockets of blue denim trousers, twitched in an imaginary caress. Why she had taken to him in the first place had always puzzled Big Mike. Maybe she'd forgotten him by now. Seven years is a long time. She could have taken up with some other mug.

This thought drove him to action.

Gus, head driver on the Philadelphia-Wilmington freight run, had promised to sort of look out for her.

Scribbled notes had come the first year. After that with less frequency. It had been most a year now since the last one. Anyway, Gus would know about her, and he strode out Fairmount avenue in a hurry to reach the central office of the Inter-State Freight Express.

Nothing mattered now except knowing everything about Annette.

At the Inter-State office a girl told him that Gus was working out of the Wilmington branch. This was disappointing. He only had forty cents. He'd have to hitch a ride.

A Baltimore avenue trolley dumped him off at the end of the line where U. S. Route 1 meets the city. For awhile he stood beside the pike, gate way to the South, and just stared at the trucks passing. His lips curled in contempt at their closed cabs and soft tires and other pleasure car comforts. It would be play pushing them over the road. Maybe he'd have to turn to stevedoring to

keep in trim.

Truck after truck passed him by. Some were travelling light, too. In the old days no mug would have dared to ignore Big Mike. Some day he'd meet up with these guys, he promised himself.

A big produce truck finally stopped. A brawny, sun baked youth leaned out of the cab.

"What you-all wants, bo?" he drawled.

"Travel!" Big Mike snapped, swinging up into the cab.

As they rolled out Baltimore pike Big Mike talked. He talked of the days when trucks had solid tires and open cabs; bragged how he'd often pushed a "ten-tonner" for twenty-four hours and had then unloaded the freight himself. And the boy just listened. And this was fortunate. Big Mike was itching to test his muscles, and Annette wasn't around to keep him out of trouble. What saved the

(Turn to Page six)

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driver, however, was the fact that he was headed straight through to the Wilmington terminus of Inter-State. Gus would be there, Big Mike knew, and Gus would know about Annette.

At the Inter-State warehouse he hopped out of the cab and strode toward a group of drivers loitering about a row of trucks backed up to the loading platform. There was something in his stride and in his eyes that radiated trouble.

"Where's Gus?" Big Mike growled.

No one answered. One of the men edged toward a truck, on the seat of which was a piece of lead pipe. Then a squat, wide shouldered man came from behind a truck.

"Big Mike!" he shouted.

Gus introduced Big Mike to the boys. Some of them had heard about him. Trouble was averted for the moment. Probably because Big Mike wanted to know about Annette and he didn't want these dude drivers to hear what was on his mind.

He followed Gus on into the warehouse.

"Where's Annette?" Big Mike asked.

"Her?" Gus laughed.

He whistled. Almost instantly a fluffy white poodle skidded around a freight crate in frenzied haste to respond to the call. Then she stopped, turned her head sideways and looked at Big Mike. Only for a moment was she in doubt. Then she bounded across to the big man. He reached down, picked her up in one hand and buried his face in her fluffy hair.

"Annette!" he exclaimed. "You old she-devil!"

(Continued from Page 1)

trance to the apartments will be on Front Street and the Office entrance on South Avenue. The building will contain elevators and will be of brick construction. A building of this type will be of great value to Media. At the present time office space and apartments are nonexistent.

Mr. Green purchased the old Pike estate on State Road near Providence Road some months ago and is planning to build 125 homes on this ground, to be known as Greenhill Manor. The homes will be for veterans and will sell for under ten thousand dollars. They will be semi-detached homes of brick and stone con-

struction. Some will have garages under the homes and others will have them detached. The laying of the sewer mains will begin this month. It is also expected that with the proper depth and grading that a large portion of Westover Hills will now be able to have sewers. Mr. G. D. Houtman is the engineer in charge of planning the sewer system.

The Pike tract is bounded by Mancil Road, State Road, Providence Road and Sandy Bank Road. The lots on the new development will be approximately 125 feet deep and will be laid out on a new street to be known as Greenhill Road and on a continuation of Ridge Road. Eighty five of these homes will be located in Upper Providence and the remaining thirty five in Media Borough.

At the present time Mr. Green is constructing six twin homes on Monroe St. near Providence Rd. that will be sold to G.I.'s. They are of stone and brick construction.

Two single homes are being built 5th and Lemon.

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## ANDERSON'S COMING

Hold your breath, fellows—because it might not come to pass. But, it looks like COACH GUS ANDERSON may be back in time for the opening football game—maybe soon enough to take over the initial practice sessions.

Here's the latest word.

From Korea, where he's stationed and doing business for Uncle Sam's Army, he wires that he may be back in the U. S. by the time August ends—may be out of uniform and in Media by September 15th.

### CLASSIFIED

**FOR SALE**—Media. Possession at settlement. Brick two story house, built 1941. Lot 40 x 200. 2 bed rms., bath, yr. old Norge oil hot air heater and air conditioning unit. All metal window sash. Venetian blinds. Garage. \$10,000. John Stewart, Johns Realty Agency. Media 1910-J—Evenings. Swarthmore 0915.

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**FOR SALE**—A. B. Dick mimeograph machine, with interleaf. Good condition. Price \$50.00. Call Media 1604W.

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is Warfel.

Officers of the class were: President. David Jefferis; Vice-President, Robert Greim; Secretary, Margaret Anderson Rigby; Treasurer, Eleanor Rhoades Sands.

To run a classified advertisement call Media 1604-W or mail to 10 South Avenue, Media.

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Seldom do you see pavements littered with paper, etc. But, perhaps a lot of the credit should go to the borough officials. Collection of rubbish has little to be desired.

Jim Lenard, U. P. policeman must be kept busy these days, we see him outside Randall Mathues office pretty often. That can only mean trouble.

Cliff Crow is getting that addition to his house done none too soon we hear he'll need it this November.

John Tinsman, of Overhill Road, says he has worn out three pair of shoes and lost ten pounds walking the neighborhood children around the block on "Duke," his John's pony.

Art Swanick of the Firestone Store says that Ben Chapman has sent his scouts out to look over Kelsev Dyke-house. Red Arrow's slugging pitcher. Kelsey's won five this year which puts him next to Rowe.

"Most popular with the children" award goes to John Duffey of Upper Providence. If he stops his car they won't let him go.

Jerry Collins lost all the profit in those scooters he has for sale when his two small sons each appropriated one.

A new scout troop is being formed at the Sandy Bank School under the direction of Phillip Dunn and Harry King. Any one interested contact either of these fellows they can use your help in a worthwhile endeavor.

Rev. William J. Alberts, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, has returned from an extended summer vacation.

Summer school's over for 110 pupils at the Media high school. Unofficial reports are that everybody made the grade. The students were taught by a group of Temple University teachers.

**POLICE**—Media has added another prowler car, radio equipped, to its detail of roving police cars. It's an indication that Chief M. H. Laughead, and borough council, will give Media

the best police service possible. The value of such service is reflected in Media's low ratio of petty crime.

**BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION**—Contrary to some beliefs, this association is not a social club. It's a business organization, functioning not only for the business houses operating in Media, but also having as one of its prime goals the protection of the public against dishonest and unscrupulous merchants.

**SEWAGE**—Since 1924 Media has had a sewage disposal plant, treating all of its sewage before being dumped into any stream. This is true in spite

of the fact that a big city like Philadelphia, as well as large Delaware County municipalities, still dump their sewage into the stream without any attempt at disposal or treatment. Medi's plant was improved in 1934.

**BIRTHDAYS**  
Joan Edna Brangan and Mrs. Helen Skinner both of North Providence Road will celebrate their birthday on Saturday, August 17th.

#### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Sigmund J. Greskiewicz, 631 South ave. and Sophie M. Mark, 119 N. Olive st.

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## REGISTRATION

Things to remember concerning the casting of your vote.

(a) If you have moved from one election district to another, you must record this move, and register, on or before September 5th to be eligible to vote in November.

(b) If you are voting for the first time (on age) you must register by September 14. This includes all who will become of age on or before November 6.

(c) The last day for any elector who has removed into a new election district to give notice to the Registration Commission in order to be permitted to vote at the November election. The removal card must set forth a removal date into the new district which cannot be later than September five.

(d) You can register at the Court House any day, including September four, during regular business hours — 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday thru Friday, and until noon on Saturday.

## M. Jas. Parsons In Harrisburg

M. James Parsons, Supervising Principal of the Media schools, leaves for Harrisburg Monday for a Governor's Conference.

Governor Martin will meet the supervising principals of Pennsylvania

schools in a conference to develop an extensive highway safety program to be inaugurated with the opening of public schools.

"It is designed to devise safer rules, and precautionary measures for the protection of the school child in meeting the traffic hazards," Mr. Parsons said. "Highway safety is an important factor to every boy and girl going to school. They must be protected."

The conference may last two days.

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## REAL ESTATE

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Washington ave.; Verdella Z. Yarnall to John Abernathy, \$1.

Rose Tree Lane; Leon Stern and Elizabeth Stern to Clyde Shuler and Esther W. Shuler, \$10,000.

Sixth and Monroe; Harvey A. Green to Irwin Green, \$1.

## DIVORCES

Anna B. Bruhn, 28, 301 W. 2nd st., from John L., 307 S. 41st st., Philadelphia. The charge is indignities. They were married in Chester, February 28, 1935.

Ann Smith, 35, 33 W. State street, from Benjamin Smith, 45, of Lincoln, Del. She charges her husband deserted her three months after their marriage last May.

Mattie M. Simpson, 27, 321 Maple ave., Morton, from Roy T. Simpson, 32, 7 Hilltop rd., Upper Providence: charging cruelty.

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